

LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS APPEALS BOARD

STATE OF HAWAII

In the Matter of )  
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF LABOR )  
AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS, )  
Complainant, )  
vs. )  
VINCE SOKUGAWA dba UNIVERSAL )  
MASONRY, )  
Respondent. )

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CASE NO. OSAB 93-012  
(OSHCO No. M3906)  
(Report No. 103897773)

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FILED  
LIR APPEALS BOARD  
STATE OF HAWAII

DECISION AND ORDER

This occupational safety and health case is before the Board on written notice of contest dated January 8, 1993 by Respondent VINCE SOKUGAWA dba UNIVERSAL MASONRY. Complainant, by its attorney, filed a motion to dismiss the notice of contest on the grounds the notice of contest was not timely filed.

The sole issue before the Board is whether Respondent's written notice of contest was filed within the period established by §396-11, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS).

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. A Citation and Notification of Penalty ("Citation") dated December 10, 1992 issued by the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, Division of Occupational Safety and Health ("DOSHS") was received by Respondent on December 11, 1992.
2. Respondent's written notice of contest of the citation was filed with DOSHS on January 8, 1993.
3. December 31, 1992 was the last day to perfect the appeal.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Respondent's written notice of contest of the Citation was filed beyond the 20 day period established pursuant to §396-11, H.R.S. Said section states, in part; "Any citation, proposed penalty or order of the director shall be final and conclusive against the employer unless the employer files with the director a written notice of contest of the citation...within twenty days after receipt of such citation, proposed penalty or order."

The Hawaii Supreme Court has declared that the time for filing an appeal is mandatory. Kissell v. Labor & Indus. Rel. App. Bd., 57 Haw. 37, 38, 549 P.2d 470, 470-471 (1976).

In the instant case, Respondent's written notice of contest of the citation was filed late. The Citation was received by Respondent on December 11, 1992, and Respondent's written notice of contest of the citation was filed on January 8, 1993, 8 days after the due date for filing. Accordingly, the mandatory nature of HRS §396-11, requires dismissal of this appeal.

ORDER

Respondent's written notice of contest of the Citation and Notification of Penalty by the Division of Occupational Safety and Health, Department of Labor and Industrial Relations dated January 8, 1993, is hereby dismissed.

Dated: Honolulu, Hawaii, JUN 24 1993.

Frank Yap, Jr.  
FRANK YAP, JR., Chairman

Carol K. Yamamoto  
CAROL K. YAMAMOTO, Member

Charles T. Akama  
CHARLES T. AKAMA, Member

I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of the original on file in this office.

Allo